

■ **INSIDE: Play the McDonald's Monopoly Insert & Coupons inside****INDEX**

People	2
National News	3
Opinion	4
Youth Page	5
Community News	6
Art Wednesday	7
Business	8
Classifieds	9



# CITY NEWS

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May 3 - May 9, 1995

**INSIDE**

■ **Can America deal with the reality with its own terrorism**  
See page 4

■ **Essence Awards honors black women and men**  
See page 7

■ **Who benefits from the black dollar**  
See page 8

**Why are white men so angry? The Oklahoma bombing**

OKLAHOMA CITY—Where were you at 9:02 AM (CT) on Wednesday, April 19? Wherever you were, it was the minute that America lost its remaining innocence. Terrorism had come, not to New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, but Oklahoma City, America's heartland. It was first reported that the bombing had the fingerprints of international terrorism emanating from the Middle East. Wrong! Then it was reported that possibly the Nation of Islam was behind the bombing. Wrong! Finally, it became clear that angry white American men were the culprits.

Why are white men so angry? Probably for essentially the same reason that the rest of us are angry—i.e., not enough meaningful jobs paying livable wages, an unaffordable and declining health care system; a failing educational system; lack of safe and affordable housing; an unfair tax system; great and growing inequality in the country; and a lack of bold and courageous leadership with a vision big enough to take the country where it needs to go, and the moral authority to lead it there.

The difference between many angry white men and the rest of us may be that the "rainbow of the rejected" have often been forced to

See OKLAHOMA page 10

## White backlash from affirmative action

by Ofield Dukes

WASHINGTON, DC—The white backlash from affirmative action now sweeping the country is only new in its public vehemence.

President Lyndon B. Johnson was effective in keeping equal employment opportunity and affirmative action in public perspective by making both moral issues. However, today the debate over affirmative action has become a major political issue and an outlet for white rage, for any number of reasons.

Some conservative presidential candidates are riding the crest of the affirmative action controversy as divisive means of alienating white Democrats and independents, isolating the black vote, and capturing the White House. This mean-spirited scenario is consistent with the present, polluted political climate in Washington.

A most unfortunate aspect of this public discussion and heated debate is the ignorance of the origin, objectives, and accomplishments of affirmative action.

Even the mainstream media has become involved in the campaign of manipulation of facts to support the new wave of anti-affirmative action emotions and biased conclusions. For example, in a public television debate between Judge Robert Bork and James Mason College professor Roger Williams,

See BACKLASH page 10

by Sandra Wright

SPRINGFIELD—On Monday, April 24, the town of Springfield was host to an array of police officers and community supporters from The New Jersey Council of Black Police Associations, Black Cops Against Police Brutality, Springfield's Police Department and clergy Christian and Jewish who were demanding justice for Officer Walter Brooks.

Officer Brooks is being charged by the Springfield Police

Department for being tardy 15 minutes in December 1994, and 18 minutes in February 1995. The police department is asking for a one day suspension.

Brooks has the option of accepting or rejecting the discipline. He rejected it.

According to Brooks' attorney Kirk D. Rhodes, of Frost, Rhodes, Devlin and Smith Law firm in Plainfield, his client has stated that he is the only police officer that has ever been disciplined by the loss of a day for being late with reasonable

explanations for lateness.

In December, Brooks was late arriving to work because he was sick with the flu. On the preceding day he was asked to work overtime by a Sergeant Trampler, who was notified that Brooks could not work because he was sick.

On the following day, Trampler reportedly called Brooks at home, inquiring why he was not at work. Brooks told him that he had overslept because of his illness, and later went in to work.

Brooks was again late on

January 14 because of a misunderstanding in a shift rotation procedure. His supervisor accused the incident. However a few days later Police Chief William Chisolm ordered the officers to file a report against Brooks, which he (Chisolm) submitted to the Township.

Brooks had the option of a private review, but decided against it because of the "disparity and treatment he received. And being the only person ever dealt with in that fashion he would make it public," stated Rhodes.

"My client believes that the reason for the treatment is because of race. The Captain which directed charges be brought in the first instance, which the chief relied upon to file formal charges, had made damaging racial remarks a short time before that," said Rhodes.

In a statement issued by Black Cops Against Police Brutality, De Lacy Davis reported that Brooks was being reprimanded because he

See BLUE page 6

## Is Dr. Foster's nomination dead on arrival?

by William Reed

Thanks to a not-ready-for-prime-time performance by the White House, as the United States Senate takes up its review of Dr. Henry C. Foster's nomination to become the nation's surgeon general, he is faced with a firestorm of criticism of having performed abortions and Clinton administration misinformation about him.

With anti-abortion groups and a number of conservative lawmakers already on record opposing his confirmation, Foster's nomination is dangerously adrift.

Most black groups support President Clinton for nominating another African American to the post of "top doctor" in the country, and scores of them have endorsed Foster. A number of respected African Americans, such as retired Meharry Medical College professor, Dr. Ludwald O.P. Perry, have come to Foster's defense.

Perry says, "His outstanding contributions to medicine and society have extended beyond the confines of his primary expertise. They include his direct involvement with the most serious health issues of the world—teenage pregnancy, AIDS and the delivery of good health care. I believe that these attributes qualify Dr. Foster for the position of Surgeon General of the United States."

The head of the Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship of Davidson County (TN), Dr. Forrest E. Harris, Sr., states, "Dr. Foster has initiated innovative approaches to prevent teenage pregnancy and understands the unique health care issues and medical problems of the underprivileged and underserved."

Foster has been endorsed by 40 members of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) and he was the keynote speaker for the National Newspaper Publishers Association's Black Press Week Luncheon in March where the group of over 200 African American-oriented



Dr. Henry C. Foster

newspapers also endorsed him.

Dr. Foster, who has made his home base in Nashville for most of his adult life, is a former Air Force medical officer and has served in the prestigious post of president of Meharry Medical College.

In response to anti-abortion critics and Capitol Hill's conservatives, Foster has tried to address their concerns directly, saying, "My specialty in the practice of medicine is obstetrics/gynecology. I have personally delivered more than 10,000 babies in nearly 30 years of practice, including my service in the military. In that period of almost three decades as a private practicing physician, I believe that I have performed fewer than a dozen pregnancy terminations."

Foster's nomination may be "dead on arrival" at Capitol Hill due to the double impact of Republican opposition and presidential politics. Foster's fellow Tennessee Senator Alexander and Senate majority Leader Robert Dole has lined up against him and Texas Senator Phil Gramm has threatened to filibuster the nomination if it reaches the Senate floor.

The politics on Foster is at such a high level that Dole may even deny his nomination a Senate vote on his fitness to serve.

Trying to protect his strong base of African-American political

support, President Clinton has vowed to "go to the mat" for his embattled nominee. Clinton says that Foster is "a good man with a good record.... He is qualified, he should be confirmed." Although the president decries the likelihood of Dr. Foster's confirmation getting caught up in presidential politics, many say the nomination itself was made with an eye to politics.

The NAACP, black labor groups and most African-American sororities and fraternities have been very vocal in their support for Foster to have the position of surgeon general. Most are demanding that Clinton "stand strong" for Foster based on how he's succumbed to pressure and rescinded support for Lani Guinier, former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy and of course, Dr. Jocelyn Elders.

Many black groups are urging their members, and other citizens, to contact their elected officials to express discontent with the treatment of Dr. Foster.

The executive director of Nashville's NAACP branch says, "Dr. Foster's professional career is a superb example of how an individual can utilize his professional training to bring hope to so-called parents, misguiding and disenfranchised young men and women, and to future physicians learning how to become a people center professional.... Let us stand tall with Dr. Foster in letting the White House and the Senate know that we will not tolerate the dehumanizing treatment of Dr. Foster."

As the hearings go forward African Americans who are concerned that Foster should be confirmed, or would simply like to express their feelings about the situation, should contact members of the U.S. Senate via 202-224-3121 or their representative in the House at 202-225-3121.

Rosetta Miller-Perry and members of The "Tennessee Tribune" in Nashville contributed to this story

## City of Orange celebrates women in government day



Pictured with Mayor Brown outside Orange High are (Standing, 1 to 4) Alma Clark, clerk typist Orange Recreation; Lorelei Hawthorne, director of housing; Diana Russ-Harmon, principal Orange High; Raymond Claybrook; Crystal Howard, Mayor Brown; Sandra Accomando; Officer Michelle Jackson; Mary Holland, director public health nursing (kneeling, 1 to 4) Theresa Thornton; Lavanda Davis and Tiffany Wright.

ORANGE—As a commemoration of Women's History Month, on Friday, April 7, the residents of Orange joined city officials in a celebration of Women in Government.

Themed, "Women in Government Day," the event was a celebration of the women and goals achieved by women who help to run the city. The event which was held at the Orange High School was sponsored by the Mayors Office and the Orange Board of Education.

Women in key roles in municipal government gave presentations to students on how being a woman has affected their careers.

"This is a positive step in the alliance of youth and Government services. It was an excellent opportunity for the students of Orange High and I too look forward to

hosting next years program," commented Mary Jones, Guidance Counselor, of the high school.

Ten women in jobs ranging from Court Administrator, Police Officer, Deputy City Clerk, and Councilperson were invited to the program which was held in two classrooms at Orange High school. "Roles for women in Government have changed drastically in recent years," commented Mayor Robert L. Brown. "By bringing the roles of local government into the schools, it gives High school students a window into the roles and responsibilities of City government. This program will help expose young people to the varied careers and opportunities which await young women and men in leadership roles in all levels of government," he said.

# Black judges speak out on racism

## New book exposes flaws in justice system

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—In a book entitled "Black Judges on Justice," American black judges criticize the most popular anti-crime policies as racist and proven failures during candid interviews about the nation's justice system.

Mandatory sentencing is very popular with politicians who posture themselves as "tough on crime," but these harsh imprisonment policies have "not been effective in cutting crime," states Los Angeles Municipal Court Judge Veronica S. McBeth. McBeth is one of three female judges included in among the fourteen judges inter-

viewed in this book that has been described by one reviewer as a "seminal work."

The incarceration of huge numbers of young black males nationwide, resulting largely from mandatory sentencing laws, is termed "a quiet kind of genocide" by Joseph Brown of Memphis, a trial court judge who trims his black judicial robes in African kente cloth.

"Black Judges on Justice" is the first book to present the views of leading African-American jurists serving on the nation's federal and state benches. The black jurists interviewed include: Famed federal

jurist A. Leon Higginbotham, who authored the famous letter attacking the anti-black attitudes of now U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas; Brian Wright, the feisty New York City jurist who has won acclaim for his decades long fight against racism in the judiciary, and Constance Baker Motley, the first African-American female federal judge.

The jurists forthrightly discuss the inequities of race and class which too often stack the deck of the justice system against blacks. For example, the book has persuasive prejudices of judges and prosecutors, which impact on decisions like who gets probation and who goes to prison, are examined by Theodore A. McKee, a Philadelphia judge who now sits on the federal Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

The jurists in Black Judges provide rare insights into the judicial decision making process, exposing how this life-improving process is often arbitrary and wholly unrelated to laws. Further, the jurists present intriguing autobiographical sketches of their accomplishments, often in the face of tremendous adversity.

The jurists were interviewed by Philadelphia journalist Linn Washington Jr., a graduate of the Yale Law Journalism Fellowship program. "Black Judges on Justice," published by the New Press, exposes many myths. It is widely believed in this society that Black leadership is soft on crime. But Washington, D.C. judge Reggie B. Walton served as President Bush's Assistant Drug Czar and Senior White House Advisor on Crime. Walton says one of his major frustrations working for the Bush Administration was his inability to

See JUDGE page 8

# PEOPLE



Scholarship winners display their mock checks on the set of the Montel Williams Show. Pictured (seated, l-r) Aurelio Ibarra and Dolores Bridges. (Standing l-r) Shana Adams, Montel Williams and Angela Goode.

## Students receive UNCF scholarships on national TV

NEW YORK—Four college students who were guests on a "Good News" taping of the Montel Williams Show, discussing the difficulties of financing their college education were surprised when United Negro College Fund (UNCF) President William H. Gray, III appeared and presented them each with scholarships.

Aurelio Ibarra, from Saint Paul College in Dallas, TX, Shana Adams from Xavier University in New Orleans, LA, Angela Goode from Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville, VA, and Dolores Bridges from Clark Atlanta University in Atlanta, GA, are the recipients of four UNCF scholarships.

With Montel looking on, Gray presented mock checks to each student. Scholarship funds were provided through grants to UNCF from MBIA Insurance Corp., United Parcel Service (UPS), NYNEX Foundation and Ronald McDonald

Children's Charities.

Ibarra, a Mexican-American biology student who wants to become a physician received a \$3,000 scholarship from NYNEX.

Goode, a participant in the Single Parents Program at Saint Paul's College and a business administration major is the recipient of a \$10,000 scholarship from MBIA. Bridges, a business and marketing major from Oregon, she received a \$5,000 scholarship from UPS.

Adams, an aspiring physician, received a two-year, full-tuition scholarship for the RMC/UNCF/Health and Medical Scholars program.

The College Fund is a consortium of 41 private, historically black colleges and universities, which enroll 54,000 students and are open to people of all racial and ethnic groups. The show is scheduled to air later this month.

## Women's Political Caucus honors Assemblywoman Gill

MONTCLAIR—Assemblywoman Nia H. Gill (D-Essex) has been selected by the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey to receive the "1995 Women of Achievement Award."

"I am very pleased that the Women's Political Caucus, which represents so many prominent women both Democratic and Republican throughout the State would honor me with this prestigious award," said Gill.

Gill is being recognized for her legislative record and public policy positions that have enhanced the quality of life for women in New Jersey. She is the only female to sit on the Assembly Judiciary, Law and Public Safety Committee.

A formal recognition will take place during the WPCNJ's Annual Conference on Saturday, May 6 at the Palmer Inn in Princeton.

## East Orange committee honors police women

EAST ORANGE—On Saturday, March 25, in celebration of Women's History Month, the East Orange Committee on the Status of Women honored 19 "Women in Blue," working as firefighters and police officers in the city. Five local "Unsung Heroines" were saluted for their untiring commitment to community service, and local activism leading to the improvement of the quality of life.

The event was held in the East Orange City Hall Round. The theme for the event was "Women of Vision: Setting the Pace."

"We are proud of the contributions of those women who historically paved the way for women of today. These women are equally qualified and demonstrate their commitment as equals to their peers because each and every day they

take the same risk by putting their lives on the line for all of us," said Mayor Cardell Cooper.

The "Women in Blue" recipients included Officers Michele O. Purvis, Tonya McDonald, Kim S. Johnson, Mercedes A. Vega, Shena R. Grimes, Phyllis Bindi, Wanda K. Powell, Nina B. McClary, Tanya Pulyto, Detectives Edith Monica Pulyto, Sharon Mosby, Lorraine Meyers, Rose Marie Wilson, Elaine Settle, Jane E. Reid, Lori Rochelle Perry, Lieutenant Gloria J. Oliver, and Firefighters Tasia L. Hayes and Toni M. Patton.

Local residents saluted during the "Unsung Heroines" portion of the program were, Roxolana Potter, Irene "Ma" Blocker, Cynthia Barnes, Katie Griffith, and Mary Edmonds.

## Williams named National Queen of Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

JACKSONVILLE, FL—Hortense Clem Williams of Chicago was recently crowned National Queen of Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

The coronation took place during the Sorority's National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida. The proceeds from the pageant will benefit Eta Phi Beta's national scholarship fund.

Williams is employed as a Clinic Coordinator at the branch office of the University of Chicago Woodlawn Maternal Child Health Center.

Eta Phi Beta is a National Business and Professional Women's Non-Profit Organization with chapters located throughout the United States and the Virgin Islands. The organization's local chapter is

Psi Chapter in Newark.



Hortense C. Williams

## Wallace wins Beth Israel Med Center photo contest



Winnie Wallace of Newark, a secretary in Beth Israel Medical Center's Department of Security shows off her winning entry in the medical center's first annual photography contest. Wallace won in the funny category for a picture of her playing in a tree.

## DID YOU KNOW?

by Robert M. Taylor

...that America has always been a violent country. A study recently released show that despite all the concern about crime today, the murder rate in the U.S. is roughly the same as it was 60 years ago. In fact, the homicide rate for blacks and other minorities has actually gone down a little. The only category to show an increase was the killing of children. The data was compiled by the non-profit Population Research Bureau in Washington, DC.

...that the latest census figures show that China has a population of 1.2 billion people—the largest in the world. The Chinese are growing at the rate of 58,000 people a day or 40 new Chinese every minute. The growth is taking place despite attempts by the government to enforce a one-child-per-family law.

...that the most risky age for being involved in an automobile accident is sixteen. And according to a study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the primary reasons for 16-year-old having accidents are speeding and showing-off for their friends.

...that the breast cancer death rate among black women is increasing while that for white women decreasing. The report from the National Cancer Institute found that breast cancer deaths among white women had fallen by 5.5 percent from 1989 to 1992 while the number of black women of dying breast cancer increased by 2.6 percent during the same period.

...that Texas is serious about executing people—whether they are guilty or not. Just recently, the state put Jesse Jacobs to death even though serious doubts were raised about whether he had actually killed the person he was accused of killing. The Pope, at least one Supreme Court Justice, and a host of human rights activists had urged that the execution be delayed. But Texas went ahead.

...that this week's favorite quote comes from a powerful little book entitled "The Art of War" by Sun Tzu. The wise person who rather than have people needing him than thinking for him, for hope has a good memory while gratitude has a bad one."

## Community Calendar

ATTENTION—Audition Brochures for the NJ Youth Symphony's 1995-96 music season are now available for youth ages 8 to 18. For more info call 908-771-5544.

NEWARK—Korea: Religious and Traditions and "Explore Korea: A Visit to Grandfather's House" exhibits open at the Newark Museum. For more info call 201-966-6550.

PLAINFIELD—Registration is now open for children grades Pre-K thru 2 at Holy Family School. For more info call 908-755-0500.

PLAINFIELD—Library Volunteers of America sponsor several Spring Basic Training Workshops at Plainfield Public Library on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-755-7998.

NEW THRU MAY 11 HACKENSACK—"Making Positive Changes" support group helping women take control over their lives; at the Career and Life Counseling Center from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For info call 201-348-0000, Ext. 3345.

NEW THRU MAY 11 COMERVILLE—"How Fine Arts Prints are Made" exhibit at the Council's North Branch galleries. For more info call 908-725-2110.

NEW THRU MAY 14 ATTENTION—Five-part Nature series "Normans of the Wind" airs on PBS at 8 p.m.

NOW THRU JUNE 4 NEW YORK—The Whitney Museum of American Art will present the 1995 Biennial Exhibition. For more info call 212-570-3533.

NOW THRU JUNE 10 NEWARK—Poetry Festival Programs at the Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-643-3606.

NOW THRU JUNE 25 MONTCLAIR—Native jewelry making workshop at The Montclair Art Museum. For more info call 201-746-5555.

NOW THRU JULY 30 NEW YORK—"New York Saved: Thirty Years of Landmarks Preservation" exhibit at The Museum of the City of New York. For more info call 212-534-1672.

MONTH OF MAY NEWARK—"Newark Shape-Up '95" (including after-work work-out sessions) at Symphony Hall's Dance Studio. For info call 201-623-4621.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3 SPRINGFIELD—Spring Fashion Show Preview at Balducci Golf Club. For more info call 201-378-7500.

NEW BRUNSWICK—"Municipal Court" seminar from 7 - 9 p.m. at the New Jersey Law Center. For more info call 1-800-FREE LAW.

WAYNE—Eleventh Annual Abram Kanich Thomas Jefferson lecture at William Paterson College at 9:30 a.m. For more info call 201-595-3191.

MAY 3, 4 EDISON—New Jersey College Fair, for high school students in search of the perfect college, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (also 6 to 9 p.m. on 5/3) at Raritan Center Exposition Hall. Admission is free.

FRIDAY, MAY 5 TOMS RIVER—David Byrd will be keynote speaker at NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet. For more info call 908-270-2244.

MAY 5-7 MONTCLAIR—Spring Weekend Workshop at Montclair State University. For more info or to register call 201-655-7614.

SATURDAY, MAY 6 CRANFORD—Track and Field Special Olympic meet at Memorial Field at 11 a.m. For more info call 201-798-1628 or 908-322-9247.

CRANFORD—Annual Astronomy Day at Union County College. For more info call 908-709-7029.

JERSEY CITY—"At Risk Youth" course at Jersey City State College from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-200-3089.

WAYNE—21st Annual Conference on the Young Child at William Paterson College from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For info call 201-595-2354.

TRENTON—"Sharpening Test-Taking Skills" at Thomas Edison COLLEGE Workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info call 609-864-1140.

BROOKLYN—African Street Festival "talent search" for anyone age 12-21 at Iteyale Cultural Arts Facility from noon - 3 p.m. Call 718-638-6700.

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## NATIONAL NEWS at a glance

### Report: absence of fathers ruining the inner city

A report released last week by the Annie E. Casey Foundation says that the absence of fathers in inner-city homes growing up in homes without a father has quadrupled since 1950, and has left many inner-city neighborhoods nearly devoid of responsible male role models. Foundation Executive Director Douglas Nelson said the dramatic demographic change has not only left female-headed families poorer, but "the emotional support provided by a second parent seems to also contribute to self-esteem, security and aspiration in children." What the report found was that children who grow up in families without fathers are five times more likely to be poor, twice as likely to drop out of high school, more likely to get involved in crime and girls are three times as likely to become unwed mothers. The key reason for the disappearing father was found to be economic. Real wages for young men (25 to 34) have declined by 26 percent since 1972. The decline for young black men (without a high school education) has been 50 percent.—BALTIMORE, MD.

### Johnson's remarriage

According to "Business Week" magazine, "black hair care company" giants George and Joan Johnson remarried last week. Their divorce in 1989 threw their company, Johnson Products—into turmoil. The result was that the family lost control of the company which had been one of the largest black-owned firms in America. The couple has refused to discuss why they decided to remarry. But son Eric explained simply, "They missed one another." But it appeared unlikely that the 68-year-old George and the 65-year-old Joan would make any attempt to regain control of the company from the non-black holding company—IVAX—which purchased the firm in 1990.—CHICAGO, IL.

### Rich secretary: labor-poor gap is destroying nation

Clinton administration Labor Secretary Robert Reich is predicting that the widening gap between the rich and the poor in America is threatening to "rip our society apart." Speaking last week before the Financial Women's Association of New York, Reich reported that since 1978 "almost all of the increase in average family income...has gone to the top fifth of the population. At the same time, said Reich, "the bottom 20 percent has lost 15 percent of real family income." The result of this widening income gap, according to Reich, "if unaddressed, can rip our society apart" with crime and social upheaval.—NEW YORK, NY.

### African investment fund launched

The Calvert Group recently week announced the start of the Calvert New Africa Fund. The fund will for the first time offer investment opportunities in stocks throughout Africa—not just South Africa. One of the principal managers of the fund will be Macao Sloan founder of the Sloan Financial Group which is one of the nation's largest black-owned money management companies with over \$3 billion in assets under its management. Despite a wide range of economic problems throughout Africa, Sloan suggested that there is plenty of wealth potential on the continent: "Africa is one place on this globe where everyone will smile when we show up." Sloan's firm is based in Durham, North Carolina. More information about the new fund can be received by calling 1-800-369-2748.—DURHAM, NC.

### Black students critical of Atlanta Mayor

For the last few years black college students from throughout the nation have celebrated spring break by flooding the city of Atlanta during an event named Freaknik. However, this year the students were vocally angry with black Atlanta Mayor (at Campbell) charging that he set out to sabotage the event at the encouragement of the city's white business establishment. Indeed, Campbell initially issued a statement discouraging the students from coming to the city at all. But a public outcry forced him to withdraw his comments. Instead he put in place a massive police presence and the city blocked several concerts from being held at city owned facilities.

### The Rainbow Coalition

WASHINGTON, DC—The Contract on America's "Common Sense Legal Reform Act" has two titles: Civil Justice Reform and Reform of Private Securities Litigation. Both make it more difficult for individuals harmed by corporate or professional misconduct to use the civil justice system to be compensated by the responsible parties. Recently passed by the House, it would really be called the "Non-Sense DE-forming Justice Act."

The Senate will be voting (W?T?) on the so-called "Products Liability Fairness Act," which is not fair at all. It threatens to take away protections that we now have against death, injury or disability caused by dangerous or defective products. The bill caps "punitive damages—awarded for the purpose of punishing a corporate offender for irresponsible conduct—and leaves only the rich the ability to recover just compensation.

Securities litigation "deform" would effectively eliminate the

right of consumers to bring class action lawsuits when they have been the victims of stock or bond fraud.

Your family will be endangered! Under this legislation, corporations who manufacture dangerous products have no incentive to remove them from the market. Ford made Pintos with exploding gas tanks. Eli-Lilly made an arthritis drug that caused kidney and liver failure and eventually death.

Neither company voluntarily took its product off the market—they acted responsibly only after they were taken to court and slapped with large punitive damage judgments. New's legal "deform" allows manufacturers to put their greed before our safety.

Legal "deform" discriminates! This bill discriminates against women, children, retired persons and those with moderate or low incomes by limiting punitive damages to the greater of three times the actual damages or \$250,000.

For example, consider two different lawsuits, both based on the exact same corporate misconduct. If one victim is an insurance execu-

tive earning \$1 million-a-year and the other a mother who stays home with her children, the executive would be able to recover \$3 million. However, the mother, because she does not earn wages or a salary, would be limited to \$250,000 in punitive damages. This unfair legislation means that corporations do not have to show as much respect for people living on fixed or low incomes.

The Senate bill contains other anti-consumer provisions. Currently, if several companies are each responsible for a victim's injuries, the victim can sue these companies together. The Senate bill would require victims to prove each wrongdoer's degree of fault individually. This places an unfair burden on victims who have far less information, expertise and money than corporate defendants.

Legal "deform" favors the powerful! This bill is yet another effort by the new Republican majority to turn their backs on us. It provides corporate America with a shield to hide behind while leaving us out in the cold. "Legal deform" is detrimental to our

struggle for justice.

Proponents of "legal deform" portray it as a way to "get" greedy lawyers who have sparked the "litigation explosion." Not true! In reality, it is an attempt by big business to escape responsibility when they profit from harming the public. We must recognize, for example, that a successful attempt to weaken securities fraud lawsuits in the name of "lawyer-bashing" will act as a precedent for challenges to the legal protections in the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Yet these senators are still undecided on their vote or how strongly to resist, including leading a filibuster: Carol Moseley-Braun (D-IL); Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); David Pryor (D-AR); Dianne Feinstein (D-CA); Arlen Specter (R-PA); Olympia Snowe (R-ME); Fred Thompson (R-TN); Robert Byrd (D-WV); Kent Conrad (D-ND); Byron Dorgan (D-ND); and Strom Thurmond (R-SC).

Call 202-224-3121 and ask to speak to your senator's office; or call 1-800-70-JUSTICE to send a free telegram to your senator.

### Myrlie Evers-Williams to receive Free Spirit Award

ARLINGTON, VA.—Myrlie Evers-Williams, the new chair of the NAACP, has been selected to receive The Freedom Forum's highest honor, the Free Spirit Award.

Evers-Williams, 62, will receive the award at a ceremony on Monday, May 15. A \$100,000 check that accompanies the award will be given to the NAACP in her honor.

"The NAACP has been a voice of moral authority for this nation during some of its most divided and difficult times," Allen H. Neuharth, chairman of The Freedom Forum, said. "It is the hope of The Freedom Forum that this award and our financial support will help the NAACP continue its important participation in the civil rights dialogue."

Evers-Williams' first husband, Medgar Evers, was an NAACP field organizer who was slain outside the family home in Mississippi in 1963 at the height of the nation's civil rights struggle.

See AWARD page 6

<b>Pathmark.</b> Items available at Pathmark Supermarkets with a Pharmacy Dept. and at Free Standing Drug Stores. Prices effective thru May 13, 1995. *Crackmark means a Yellow Tag Sale. <b>Roux Fanci-full Rinse</b> 11 oz. bot. <b>\$5.19</b> <b>Revlon Outrageous Design Spray</b> 8 oz. cont. <b>\$3.29</b> <b>Revlon Outrageous Gel Mist</b> 8 oz. cont. <b>\$3.29</b> <b>Stridex Pads Regular</b> Maximum Strength 55 ct. <b>\$4.19</b> <b>Stridex Pads Maximum Strength</b> 32 ct. <b>\$4.69</b> <b>Stridex Pads Sensitive Skin</b> or Super Scrub 55 ct. <b>\$4.69</b>	<b>Stridex Gel</b> 1oz. cont. <b>\$6.59</b> <b>Stridex Bar</b> 3.5 oz. <b>\$2.99</b> <b>Chubs Stackables Refill</b> 80 ct. <b>\$3.39</b> <b>Alcon Opti-Free</b> Enzymatic Cleaner 12 ct. <b>\$7.99</b> <b>Alcon Opti-Free</b> Enzymatic Cleaner 16 ct. <b>\$8.49</b> <b>Alcon Opti-Free</b> Disinfecting Solution 12 oz. cont. <b>\$9.19</b> <b>Flex-all 454</b> 4 oz. cont. <b>\$6.59</b>	<b>Flex-all 454 Maximum Strength</b> 3 oz. cont. <b>\$6.59</b> <b>Dimetapp Extentabs</b> 12 ct. <b>\$6.49</b> <b>Dimetapp Cold &amp; Cough Liqui-Gels</b> 12 ct. <b>\$3.79</b> <b>Dimetapp Pediatric Drops</b> 0.5 oz. cont. <b>\$6.89</b> <b>Dimetapp Sinus Caplets</b> 20 ct. <b>\$5.29</b> <b>Dimetapp 4-Hour Liqui-Gels</b> 12 ct. <b>\$3.79</b> <b>Dimetapp Elixir</b> 8 oz. bot. <b>\$10.49</b>	<b>Dimetapp DM Elixir</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$6.49</b> <b>Dimetapp Elixir</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$6.49</b> <b>Dimetapp Chewable Tablets</b> 24 ct. <b>\$4.49</b> <b>Clearblue Easy Pregnancy Test</b> 1 Kit <b>\$13.99</b> <b>PeroxiCare Toothpaste</b> 2.7 oz. tube <b>\$2.89</b> <b>Cortaid Maximum Strength</b> Cream 1 oz. cont. <b>\$5.49</b> <b>Cortaid Maximum Strength</b> Ointment 1 oz. cont. <b>\$5.49</b>	<b>Boston Cleaner</b> 1 oz. cont. <b>\$9.39</b> <b>Boston Conditioning Solution</b> 4 oz. cont. <b>\$9.39</b> <b>Boston Advance Cleaner</b> 1 oz. cont. <b>\$10.99</b> <b>Boston Advance</b> Conditioning Solution 4 oz. cont. <b>\$10.99</b> <b>Boston Rewetting Drops</b> 0.33 oz. cont. <b>\$6.99</b> <b>Boston Advance</b> Convenience Pack 1 Kit <b>\$7.89</b> <b>Robitussin</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$3.99</b>	<b>Robitussin</b> 8 oz. bot. <b>\$6.49</b> <b>Robitussin DM</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.79</b> <b>Robitussin DM</b> 8 oz. bot. <b>\$7.79</b> <b>Robitussin PE</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.79</b> <b>Robitussin CF</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.79</b> <b>Robitussin CF</b> 8 oz. bot. <b>\$7.79</b> <b>Robitussin Night Relief</b> 6 oz. bot. <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>Robitussin Pediatric Cough &amp; Cold</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.79</b> <b>Robitussin Maximum Strength</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.99</b> <b>Robitussin Cough &amp; Cold</b> Maximum Strength 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.99</b> <b>Robitussin Pediatric Night</b> 4 oz. bot. <b>\$4.79</b> <b>Advil Cold &amp; Sinus</b> Caplets 20 ct. <b>\$5.19</b> <b>Advil Cold &amp; Sinus</b> Tablets 20 ct. <b>\$5.19</b> <b>Advil Cold &amp; Sinus</b> Caplets 20 ct. <b>\$8.79</b>
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## EDITORIAL

## Don't tamper with our rights

Since the Oklahoma bombing, the great debate has been whether we should consider curtailing basic rights to keep the lunatic fringe on the right and left from getting out of control. Limiting rights has always been difficult considering that those who have always enjoyed those rights don't want them taken away and those who have fought hard to get those rights share the same feeling.

There is another solution. Hateful language really doesn't have to be curtailed; we just don't have to support it.

Hate talk shown on radio and television is supported by consumers like the same ones who died in the Oklahoma Federal Building bombing. You may not make a direct donation to these hate programs, but the corporations that advertise on the programs get their money from consumers like you who buy their products.

The Oklahoma tragedy should clearly demonstrate that hate spreads to everyone if allowed to go unchecked. We must stop allowing our airways to be filled with hate just because it garners ratings. We must stop supporting companies that advertise on hate programs just because they get ratings. We don't need to tamper with constitutional rights. We just need to have the guts to say no to hate and be prepared to vigorously let our intentions be known to those that control the purse strings.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

## Government should not an obstacle

## Dear Editor:

The government's \$3.8 billion proposal for the Department of Human Services, \$137 million less than last year, might make some people assume that less money will mean fewer services for those who need services the most—poor people, people with developmental disabilities and people with psychiatric problems.

But the old assumptions don't hold any longer. In fact, the government's budget gives Human Services all the money it has requested. We are able to do with less because we are not making assumptions. We're re-examining the services we perform to make them better and more efficient.

We are not assuming that government alone can provide the services we now provide. We are not assuming that what we paid for a service last year is what it should cost. We are not assuming that the way something has been done is the way it should be done.

It's not that what was done in the past was wrong. But delivery of human services has changed radically in the past few years. New methods, new providers, and a new national focus emphasize using services to help people back into society. The concept of institutionalization, either by trapping people who are different to a place without regard to their abilities or trapping people in a cycle of welfare that discourages initiative, has been abandoned.

Without the old assumptions, new possibilities are opening for our primary mission: to deliver quality services to the people who need them.

See GOVERNMENT/page 10

## Can America deal with the reality of its own terrorism



by Sharon Khadijian Vincent

America has been forced to look at the ugly side of the hatred, racism, intolerance, and violence that is eating away the soul of this nation. Unfortunately, it took a horrific act of violence and barbarism that has tragically took and forever altered or destroyed the

lives of hundreds of innocent men, women and children, to make people stop and look at the consequences of the climate of hatred that exists in this country.

The Oklahoma City tragedy has touched the hearts and minds of millions of people. It would be bad enough to witness the slaughter of any man or woman. But, to see babies and children killed and maimed is intolerable, and should shock and enrage any individual, regardless of race, color or creed. It's hard to make sense out of such a vicious and cowardly act, even if

you remotely believed or agreed with those who share the same extremist or set of beliefs that the alleged perpetrators of this heinous crime hold. Yet, as we have seen time and time again throughout history, fascists breed these kinds of immoral and spineless acts of violence against people.

Those who first wanted to accuse "foreign terrorists" and point the finger elsewhere, should have looked at the finger pointing right back at them. Some of the communicators of hatred, such as Rush Limbaugh, Bob Grant, Chuck

Waker, Oliver North, G. Gordon Liddy, etc., initially went on Arab and immigrant bashing crusades on the airwaves, in the aftermath of the Oklahoma bombing. Ironically, though, these right-wing communicators of hate and intolerance have had to back up and eat their words, since the preliminary investigations have linked the fatal bombing to right-wing neo-fascist fanatics who share the same vicious opinions as their forementioned companions of hate.

Can America deal with the reality of its own "home grown"

terrorism? The Oklahoma City bombing blast has put the issue on the front burners and those who were content to ignore it, and naively believe that hatred could be contained and directed content to ignore it, and naively believe that hatred could be contained and directed against a select group of people are now forced to deal with this misguided analysis.

The sad seed, if Americans continue to sit back and remain apathetic, this climate of hatred will continue to grow leading to more tragic incidents such as what

occurred in Oklahoma. The symbolism of creating hate and terror in the so-called "heartland of America" shouldn't be lost on any of us.

I have written articles in the past about the need to be vigilant against the right-wing neo-fascist groups that were spreading across this country and infecting people with fascist ideas. Groups such as the National Alliance, The Order, White Aryan Resistance, Patriot Movement, Skin Heads etc. are not

See TERRORISM/page 10

From Capitol Hill

by Askia Muhammad

There's no way around the truth of it after the capture of a White, American-born suspect in the savage and heartless Oklahoma City bombing attack, a second offensive has now been launched, by the constant purveyors of hate and lawlessness who dominate the radio talk show circuit.

Convicted felons G. Gordon

Liddy and Oliver North (although Mr. North's conviction was overturned on a technical appeal), as well as New York sewer-mouth Bob Grant, are among the most rabid members of this skulking pack. They have at least one ally in Congress—Rep. Steve Stockman (R-TX)—a gun proponent, who was faxed details of the deadly event before it actually occurred.

There is an entire galaxy of right-wing extremists who dominate the political and media landscape. They were content to be outraged as long as the finger of blame for the

unforgivable Oklahoma City bombing was pointed at "Islamic terrorism." But when it appeared that the terror was born out of the armed and dangerous lunatic fringe of White middle-type groups, the chorus of "respectable" mainstream opinion, marched in lock-step to defend the bombers of innocent babies, and blame the government for the attack.

Mr. Liddy, the convicted and unrepentant Watergate conspirator and burglar, gave no ground. Big game specific instructions on his talk show last summer, as to where and how many times citizens should shoot at Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) agents if the agents attack them, even in the performance of their lawful duties.

At a press conference at his radio station last week, Mr. Liddy reinforced his hate, and revised his aim, suggesting that citizens might "miss" if they shoot at agents' heads (where there would be no bullet-proof vest). Instead, he said, "shoot back at the groin," because the agents could not move their hips as quickly as they could move their heads.

To say that these right-wing extremists now appear to have divided loyalty is an understatement. They claim to be loyal American "patriots," defending the Constitution. But they openly advocate violence against duly sworn federal law enforcement officials, out of one side of their mouths, while angrily castigating inner-city so-called "cop killers" out of the other.

Rep. Stockman appeared to be so-confused about his dual "loyal-

ties," that he shared the cryptic message that was faxed to his office before the bombing with the National Rifle Association (NRA) as well as with the FBI.

In a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno last month, Stockman warned: "A paramilitary style attack against Americans who pose no risk to others, even if violations of criminal law might be imposed to them, would run the risk of an irreparable breach between the federal government and the public; especially if it turned out to be an ill-considered, poorly planned, but bloody fiasco like Waco."

We all due respect, sir, when have you or any of your self-righting colleagues in government ever warned law enforcement officials to back-off from abusing the legitimate rights of black people in this country? "...even if violations of criminal law might be imposed to them..."

All of this venom has poured out, and this sick bombing appears to have been planned to coincide with the anniversary of the BATF raid on the Branch Davidians, a doomsday religious group of gun-toting and selling fanatics who were led to their death by David Koresh in Waco, Texas. And the intent was to blame the innocent Muslim community for the dirty deed.

At the time of the Brand Davidson tragedy—as did then Oklahoma Judiciary Chairman, Rep. John Conyers, Jr.—questioned the government's actions and cover-up of what happened.

But I also wondered, why no equal amount of outrage and outrage expressed at the even more outra-

geous conduct by law enforcement authorities in Philadelphia when an entire city block was burned to the ground killing more than a dozen black people (including innocent children) at the MOVE headquarters.

Unless these right-wing fanatics who are justifying with their rhetoric, an insurrection against the Federal government include the MOVE bombing, the savage murders of innocent and unarmed black workers at abortion clinics, the Los Angeles Police Department's

bombing in 1974; the Birmingham Church bombing in September 1963; the unjustified attack and murder of an unarmed Muslim brother at the Muhammad's Mosque in Los Angeles in 1965; many, many indiscriminate Ku Klux Klan bombings; and numerous unprovoked police murders of members of the Black Panther Party; then these Johnny-come-lately-civil libertarians prove themselves, to me at least, to be racists and no better than their political enemies whom they wrongfully condemn as hate-mongers.

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PUBLISHER  
HENRY C. JOHNSON, PH.D.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
JAN M. ECKHART-JOHNSON

ASSISTANT EDITOR  
SANDRA WRIGHT

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS  
SHERRY BURRUS, STEVE GREEN

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING SALES  
LOHARNE DAVIS HICKMAN

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS  
SHARON KHADIJIAN VINCENT, CONNIE WOODRUFF

COMPOSITION & LAYOUT  
CAMILLE ECKHART

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## Religious Calendar

### FRIDAY, MAY 5

PLAINFIELD—Worship-luncheon service at the United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield at noon. For more info call 908-755-0246.

### SATURDAY, MAY 6

NEWARK—Gospel Extravaganza and dinner, featuring the St. Rocco School Choir at 5 p.m. For more info call 201-622-9426.

### SATURDAY, MAY 13

BLOOMFIELD—"Songs of Spirit and Struggle" at Brookdale Reformed Church at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-642-0133.

### SATURDAY, MAY 27

EAST ORANGE—"March for Jesus" event. For more info or to be part of the March for Jesus Choir call 201-643-6668.

## Health Calendar

### EVERY SUNDAY

TUNE IN—"Conversations with Carrier" a live call-in program which discusses various health topics can be heard from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on WPAT, 930 AM.

### NOW THRU MAY 12

PLAINFIELD—Six-part information and support seminar on "Aging Issues for Those Who Care" at Muhlenberg Hospital on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. For more info call 908-668-2328.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

MONTECLAIR—National Anxiety Disorders Screening Day at 33 Fullerton St. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info call 201-509-9777.

EAST ORANGE—National Anxiety Disorders Screening Day at 424 Main St. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more info call 201-509-9777.

### THURSDAY, MAY 4

BELLE MEAD—"Sexual Dysfunction in the Treatment of Depression" lecture at the Carrier Foundation from noon to 1 p.m. For more info call 908-281-1461.

### SATURDAY, MAY 6

JERSEY CITY—Trauma Counselor course at Jersey City State College from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-200-3089.

### MONDAY, MAY 8

NEWARK—Newark Arthritis Support Group at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Medical Center. For more info call 908-283-4300.

# Health conference to focus on women's issues

WAYNE—The broad array of health care choices and challenges facing women in mid-life, from breast cancer and heart disease to occupational health and stress, will be examined during a day-long seminar at William Paterson College (WPC).

Co-sponsored by WPC and St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, the May 5 conference themed "Women's Health in the Middle Years: Choices and Challenges" will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom on campus. The fee of \$20, \$5 for WPC students, includes

a continental breakfast and lunch.

The seminar will offer more than 20 workshops throughout the day presented by a range of speakers, including physicians, nurses, social workers and college faculty.

"Women in mid-life are confronted by numerous health care issues. They also serve as caregivers for their children and often their parents, which can have additional impact on their own health," says Jean Levitan, an associate professor of community health and co-chair of the college's Women's Studies Program.

"We feel it is important for

women to get a first-hand and comprehensive view of the health care issues they face, and have an opportunity to share in a dialogue with members of the medical community," she added.

Although the conference is geared to women ages 35 to 60, younger women are encouraged to stand with their mothers as "an important Mother's Day activity," says Levitan.

Advance registration is required. For additional information or to register, please call the Center for Continuing Education, at 201-583-2436.

## Fund raising sale to benefit needy

PLAINFIELD—A one day sale of high quality and designer accessories including leather goods, handbags, scarves, watches, jewelry and more will be held on Saturday, May 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The sale will be held at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church, located at 716 Watching Avenue.

Sponsored by the Children's Service Committee of Family and Children's Services of Elizabeth, all proceeds will benefit needy children and families in Union County.

Shop for Mother's Day, graduations, weddings etc. The event will be held rain or shine. Cash and credit cards are accepted and plenty of free parking is available.

## NAACP to freedom fund banquet

TOMS RIVER—The Tom's River NAACP Branch will be holding its Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on Friday, May 5, at the Ramada Inn.

The theme for this year's banquet is, "Hopes, Dreams, Reality—Closing Unresolvable Gaps." The keynote address will be delivered by David J. Byrd, special assistant to Governor Whitman.

Again, this year the branch will award two scholarships to youths of African descent. In addition, Oscar Cadden local community leader and Rev. William A. Greene, pastor, Second Baptist Church, South Tom's River will receive the Community Service Award.

For ticket and other information call the Branch Office, at 908-270-2244 and leave a message.

## Children 'dare to dream'

OLD BRIDGE—"Children never lose hope, even during adversity; they always dream of happy things, and so should adults," said Sandy Perman of Morganville. Because of her beliefs, Perman co-chairs a fundraising event to benefit children with cancer and blood disorders, and has high hopes and dreams herself that the event will raise enough funds to help treat New Jersey's children with cancer.

Perman chose the theme "Dare to Dream" for the Institute for Children with Cancer and Blood Disorders' Annual Dinner Dance

and Auction Gala because she firmly believes that everyone should always "dream about succeeding, like children do, if they want their lives to get better."

Said Perman, who is disabled due to polio, "...I believe that if we never stop dreaming of and working towards a cure for childhood cancer we will find one."

The Annual Dinner Dance and Auction Gala will take place on Thursday, May 11 at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge. The gala includes a gourmet dinner, open bar, entertainment and various auctions.

## Award

(Continued from page 3)

gle. Her second husband, Walter Williams, a Los Angeles longshoreman and civil rights advocate, died of cancer in February, just four days after she won the NAACP leadership post.

Her election by a one-vote margin came after a year of turmoil during which the NAACP was rocked by a series of financial scandals that contributed to a \$4 million debt and threatened the organization's survival.

"Myrie Evers-Williams is a brave woman of great integrity who has never flinched in her battle for equal rights and for justice,"

Charles L. Overby, president and chief executive officer of the Freedom Forum said. "It is particularly fitting that the NAACP, in perhaps its greatest hour of need, would turn to this woman who has been a reservoir of strength and resilience all her life."

As a result of Evers-Williams' efforts, Byron De La Beckwith, a white supremacist was convicted in February 1994 of the murder of Medgar Evers and is now in prison.

The Free Spirit Award recognizes individuals who embody the principles of free press, free speech and free spirit.

## American Cancer Society offering low-cost breast exams

NORTH BRUNSWICK—The American Cancer Society is co-sponsoring the ninth annual "Breast Health Screening Program." From Monday, May 8 through Friday, May 12.

Women who are 40 years or older who have not had a mammogram and who do not have any breast cancer symptoms, can schedule a three-part breast exam which includes: education in

breast self-examination, a manual breast exam by a medical professional and a low-cost mammogram.

The exams are being offered by medical institutions throughout the state for \$40. To register for an exam please call the American Cancer Society starting Monday, May 8 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 1-800-ACS-2345.

## Plainfield residents co-chair walk for hunger rally

MOUNTAINSIDE—The Reverends Robert and Gwen Crawford, of Christ Centered Outreach in Plainfield, are the co-chairs of the third annual May 7 March for Local Hunger.

Scheduled for Sunday, May 7 the rally will take place at Echo Lake Park in Mountainside at 3 p.m. and is the destination point of community members who will walk six, four or two miles to raise funds to support local food programs.

Walkers can choose from three walks; the six mile begins at the Arthur Johnson Regional High

School in Clark at 1 p.m.; the four mile walk starts at Park Middle School in Scotch Plains at 1:30 p.m. and the two mile walk begins at the YMCA in Westfield at 2 p.m.

Registration for all walkers is \$5. Participants can register in advance or receive a sponsor sheet by contacting The Coalition for Hunger Awareness at 908-298-8200 or on the day of the walk.

The coalition for Hunger Awareness, is an interfaith group of congregations, non-profits and civic groups located in Union and Somerset Counties.

## Community show to address concerns of African-American men

NEWARK—More young black men are in prison than in college, while on the other hand more black men are in school now than ever and many are moving into the middle class for the first time.

Suburban Cablevision TV3's "Community Dialogue" is a program devoted to the issues affecting the minority community and ways to handle them.

This episode takes on the paradoxical situation of today's African-

American men. Guest William Hines, president of Concerned African-American Men, Inc. is concerned with the status and negative images of African-American men and hopes to provide some ways to solve the problems.

Join host Wayne Smith for a discussion on education, crime, economics, and responsibility on Community Dialogue. The show will air on TV3 on Saturday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m.

## Blue

(Continued from page 1)

had reported a bias incident where a patrol officer stated that the "best thing about Ireland was that there were no Niggers, Spics or Jews."

Rhodes confirmed this allegation stating that a Officer Peterson did make that remark.

Rhodes also stated that there was another instance where Brooks was referred to as Kunta Kente in the presence of the police chief.

Davis stated that the police chief allegedly insisted that he had heard rumors about racially biased incidents by because Brooks did not file a report he took no action.

Rhodes stated that it became clear at the hearing that Brooks was singled out and the chief acted excessively.

"The officer who wrote Brooks

up for the December 27 1994 incident stated that my client was the only one he could ever recall being late in the 18 years he had been a police officer."

"Unfortunately, the other officers contradicted that because they have known a number of officers whose cars have broken down and were late for various reasons, and had been allowed to use emergency compound," stated Rhodes.

Rhodes said that the reason for the hearing on Monday was to demonstrate that the recommended penalty made by the chief was excessive and Brooks would not accept it.

"However, if the township committee does not overturn the decision it will be taken to the Superior Court, concluded Rhodes.

## Save 'Under One Roof'

LOS ANGELES—Under One Roof is the only drama series on television featuring African Americans. It is in danger of being cancelled after just one season. Help JaxFax save the show

by sending an E-Mail to: CBS001A@prodigy.com or write to: The CBS Entertainment Division, 7800 Beverly Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035 or call 213-832-2345.

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Saturday, May 20, 1995



## ARTZ WEDNESDAY

## BILLBOARD

## NOW THRU MAY 20

**PISCATAWAY**—"Lattice & Loveage," a play, will be performed Friday and Saturdays at the Circle Playhouse. For more info call 908-988-7555.

## NOW THRU MAY 21

**NEW YORK**—"Blues Train," a musical play on Fridays (7:30 p.m.), Saturdays (2, 7:30 p.m.) and Sundays (3 p.m.) at the National Black Theater. For more info call 212-722-3800.

## NOW THRU MAY 24

**NEW YORK**—"Performance 42nd" will appear Wednesdays at the Whitney Museum of American Art at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 212-878-2435.

## NOW THRU JUNE

**CLINTON**—Comedy, "No Hard Feelings" will be performed at the Hunterdon Hills Playhouse. For more info call 1-800-HHP-7313.

## NOW THRU JUNE 4

**NEW YORK**—"Garmen's Community" a play at the Castillo Theatre at 7:30 and 9 p.m. For more info call 212-941-1234.

## NOW THRU JUNE 17

**NEW YORK**—Ailanthus Grove, comedy, at the Workhouse Theater at 10:30 p.m. For more info call 212-388-7338.

## NOW THRU JULY 9

**NEW YORK**—Photographs by Nadar, the celebrated portrait of the mid-19th century Paris will be on display at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Call 212-670-3951.

## MAY 3, 4

**NEW YORK**—Israel to live at SOB's. Showtimes are 8 and 11 p.m. For more info call 212-243-4840.

## African American Heritage Parade kicks-off celebrations

by Kaylin Dines

**NEWARK**—Crown's kofis and African apparel made from various shades of kente cloth adorned many of the guests and participants attending the March 26 African American Heritage Parade Committee's reception, launching the Heritage '95 celebration of cultural activities.

Dressed in royal clothing, the Committee's Heritage '95 king and queen sat on stage as their royal court stood guard behind them.

Standing at the podium positioned between the king and queen's throne, Committee Chairman Donald Bernard, Sr. welcomed the approximately 200 reception attendees and explained the Committee's purpose and goals.

"The Committee is about a common bond" and has an interest in "uplifting others," said Bernard. "What better way to uplift young people than through a (heritage) parade" added Bernard.

After Bernard emphasized the importance of "striving for cultural" awareness Councilwoman Mildred Crump was escorted to the stage by a Pharaoh from the Heritage '95 "royal court." She offered words of encouragement to the committee, urged the audience to spread the word and participate physically and financially in the Committee's activities.

Entertainment was provided by the Hunter Hayes Band and Creative Expressions, a local dance troupe.

## Lou Rawls at the John Harms Theater

**ENGLEWOOD**—Jazz, pop, soul, blues or gospel—Lou Rawls sings it all with two incredible performances on Saturday, May 13 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. at the John Harms Theater.

After more than 30 years in the business, Lou Rawls ranks among the legends of the industry. He has recorded a string of American standards which have garnered him one platinum and six gold albums, plus a gold single. From his 1962 solo album debut, "I'd Rather Drink Muddy Water," for Capitol Records, he went on to record more than 20 albums in less than a decade. For ticket information please call the John Harms Theater at 201-567-5797.

## Essence Awards honors African-American women and men

**NEW YORK, NY**—On Friday evening, May 12, "ESSENCE" magazine, as part of its 25th anniversary celebration, will pay tribute for the first time to both African-American women and men at the 1995 Essence Awards.

The Awards ceremony will be

held at the Madison Square Garden Paramount Theater in New York City starting at 7:30 p.m. and will be videotaped for prime-time television airing on Fox Broadcasting.

The Awards will honor six outstanding African Americans for their accomplishments in their

respective fields and for their significant contributions to their communities, their country and the world. This year's award recipients are:

Kathryn Hall, founder of the Birthing Project, an organization that pairs caring professional women with young, disadvantaged "little sisters" to assist them psychologically and emotionally throughout their pregnancies and to offer support during the baby's first year.

Janet Jackson, first artist in music history ever to place seven

Top Five singles from one album on the Billboard pop chart. Last year Janet donated the proceeds of a two-day New York City concert to the Rwandan relief effort.

Zoe London, a law school student who at age 21, began a remarkable quest to transform her 12-year-old cousin from a victim to a victor.

MAD DADS, Inc., a group of fathers, ministers, teachers and laymen who have accepted the challenge of reclaiming the lives of young black men in their community.

General Colin L. Powell, the

former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and military leader during the Gulf War.

Stevie Wonder, throughout Stevie's 30-year career, he has sold more than 70 million LPs and has earned 17 Grammy Awards, as well

as an Oscar.

Tickets can be purchased at the Madison Square Garden box office or by calling TicketMaster: in New Jersey, 201-507-8900; in Manhattan, 212-307-1717. For more information, call 212-465-MSG1.



Pictured from top (l-r) Kathryn Hall, Janet Jackson, Zoe London, MAD DADS, Inc., General Colin L. Powell and Stevie Wonder


## 'What Goes Around...Comes Around'

**NEWARK**—The current touring stage production of "What Goes Around Comes Around," the third "hit" play written, directed and produced by David E. Talbot, is being hailed by critics and the audience alike as one of the most entertaining stage plays to come along in quite a while. Aside from producing a laugh-a-minute during its two hour time frame on stage, the play is also being lauded as a fantastic musical theatre piece that has no peer!

"What Goes Around Comes Around" will be showing at the Newark Symphony Hall from May 9 to 14. Curtain time is 8 p.m. for night performances and 3 p.m. for weekend matinees. For ticket prices call the Newark Symphony Box Office at 201-643-8009.



The cast of What Goes Around...Comes Around



# Mother's Day Benefit Concert

Sunday, May 14th  
5pm  
Robert Treat Center in the  
Tri-State Ballroom  
50 Park Place, Newark,  
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Betty Carter & Her Trio  
and  
Bradford Hayes Quartet

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ONE MAN HAS  
ABSOLUTE POWER.  
AND ONE MAN  
WILL DO ANYTHING  
TO STOP HIM.

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JOHN HANES ZIMMER  
COMPOSER MICHAEL WHITE  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MICHAEL WHITE  
PRODUCED BY MICHAEL SCHIFFER AND RICHARD P. HENRIK  
WRITTEN BY DON SIMPSON AND JERRY BROCKMEYER  
DIRECTED BY TONY SCOTT

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# BUSINESS

## Who benefits from the black dollar?

By James Clingman

### Business Calendar

**ATTENTION**—Register for investment courses at the Plainfield Adult School of Continuing Education. For more info call 908-753-3251 or 93252.

**ATTENTION**—The Final Report of the US Commission on Minority Business Development available from NTIS by calling 703-487-4850.

**ATTENTION**—Order your "NJ Financing Resources Manual" by calling 609-425-0818.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

**NEWARK**—Downtown and Regional Salute to Small Business Award Luncheon at Newark Symphony Hall from noon to 2:30 p.m. For more info call Michael Bard at 201-942-6237, Ext. 222.

**WASHINGTON**—"Third Regional Partnership '95 Conference" for minority and women-owned businesses from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more info call 800-578-5340.

**TRENTON**—ABC's of State Certification for Small Women and Minority-Owned Business at Mercer County Community College. For more info call 609-586-9446.

#### MAY 3, 4

**WHIPPANY**—North Jersey Business Show at the Birchwood Manor, Call 201-837-0092.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 4

**BOSTON**—American Management Association's "Fundamentals of Marketing: Your action plan for success" seminar at the Sheraton Boston Hotel. For more info or to register call 1-800-262-9699.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 6

**BRIDGEPORT**—"Marketing Yourself and Your Profession" at the Holiday Inn Executive Center from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more info call 201-791-9157.

We've heard it all before. Our money circulates no more than one time in the black community, as opposed to dollars in other communities, where the rate is anywhere from three to seven times.

We have also heard that African Americans transfer approximately 92 percent of our annual income to businesses owned by other ethnic groups, leaving ourselves with a meager "allowance" to share amongst our own businesses.

The bottom line is that other groups of people gain more from our money, our labor, and do more with our money than we do. We give away the lion's share of a \$350 billion annual income and sit back, amazed at why we are so far behind the rest of the pack in this country.

In addition, we complain that we are not being treated fairly, which is a legitimate complaint. We are not treated fairly, by use another.

Affirmative action? We once had our own affirmative action program, during the times prior to the

sixties, when all we had were our own businesses to support. But as soon as we were given the "privilege" of spending our money at white-owned businesses, we quickly reversed the standards of our own affirmative action by turning our backs on our businesses and "being fair" to the businesses of others.

The benefits of our hard earned dollars began to flow, in even greater terms, to ethnic groups other than our own. Virtually everyone began to profit from the "black dollar," except black people, that is.

Now we find ourselves faced with the no-win proposition of trying to retrieve less gains, trying to bargain back the concessions we literally gave away through our neglect of our own economic systems.

Here are some very simple ways for us to begin to fight back and to reclaim our lost economy. First, we must look to the largest repository of black dollars in our communities; the black church.

Think of the economic leverage we would have if the five largest black churches in each city would

deposit their collections in the same bank. I did not say co-mingle their funds; I did not say pool their funds. I said "deposit" their funds.

Of course, they would have to work together at some level, despite their religious differences, to develop a plan of action that would benefit their group.

That should not be a problem, however, because they work together already, usually on everything except economic issues. But just imagine what power they would have, we would have, if their feat was replicated across this country. We would be well on our way to economic prosperity, economic empowerment, in just a few years.

The second answer lies within our neighborhoods. For example, take a look at the recent boycott of the Kroger store by Price Hill (Cincinnati, Ohio) residents. They supported that particular Kroger store and felt betrayed when it announced it was closing. The people in the neighborhood decided on an economic solution; a boycott of the store.

That's the key weapon of any group of consumers. Some people use the term "consumer," when it comes to African Americans, in a demeaning manner.

They try to suggest that because we are primarily consumers, we are at the mercy of the producer. That's simply not true. Because we are the largest group of consumers in this country, relatively speaking of course, we are the most powerful group of consumers as well. We hold the destiny of many companies in our pockets and purses.

If we would join forces when it comes to our spending power, our power as consumers, we would find ourselves sitting at the decision-making tables, in the board rooms of the companies we support.

The Price Hill group, as many before them have demonstrated, shows us what unity can accomplish. It's bad enough to know you're being mistreated by someone. But to sit back, or even lie down, and take it is inexcusable.

Banking, consumer packaged goods, clothing, and automobiles are the main industries supported by

black and poor consumers. Consequently, they stand to lose a great deal if black and poor people hold back their support, their dollars.

By the same token, those companies have a great deal to gain by working with black and poor people. But first we must demonstrate that we are serious about sitting at the table with them. We must show them that we are serious about gaining some of the tremendous benefits that accrue from our dollars. Our community groups must begin to address economic issues in a serious manner. That means we must marshal our collective strength by using our dollars wisely, collectively.

We must show a collective front, starting with small groups and working our way up to larger ones, and begin living by the same economic tenet to which every other group subscribes; cooperative economics. How ironic that it (Ujamaa) began in Africa.

James Clingman is the Editor of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper.

## NJAWBO announces excel business skills seminar schedule

**BRIDGEWATER**—The New Jersey Association of Women Business Owners (NJAWBO) has announced the spring schedule for EXCEL, entrepreneurial training program.

The workshops include:

**Are You Entrepreneur?—A Reality Check For Women Who Ask Is Business Ownership For Me?** Free admission.

**Wednesday May 3, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.** YWCA, Montclair  
**Wednesday May 10, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.** Summit Resource Center for Women  
**Saturday May 13, 9 - noon** Rutgers-Newark SBDC

**Start Right. Build Right!—The Business Plan Basics For Women Already In Business Or Ready To Start.** \$150 fee.

Scholarship assistance is available for income eligible participants.

**Five week seminars to be held:**  
**Wednesdays May 10, 17, 24, 31 and June 7 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.** YWCA, Montclair

**Wednesdays May 17, 24, 31 and June 7, 14 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.** Summit Resource Center for Women

**Saturday May 13, 9 - noon** Rutgers-Newark SBDC

**SBA to hold business week award luncheon**

**NEWARK**—Seven New Jersey residents will be honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) at the organization's annual Small Business Week Awards Luncheon.

The event will be held on Thursday, May 4 at the Scanticon Hotel and Conference Center in Princeton.

**Women**

**Saturdays May 20 and June 3, 10, 17, 24 9 a.m. - noon** Rutgers-Newark SBDC

The EXCEL program consists of three parts for businesses in different stages of growth. Are You an Entrepreneur is a diagnostic questionnaire workshop for potential business owners.

"Start Right. Build Right" is an intensive 15-hour classroom seminar that helps women determine their business strengths and weaknesses, learn the basics of finance and marketing and how to access capital. Participants are guided through the development of a business plan.

And "Grow Smart" is a four day program for established women business owners who want to increase the growth and profitability of their businesses. For more information call Harriet Nazarene at 908-707-1073.

## Minority vendors sought for upcoming trade mission

**WASHINGTON**—Minority Business Development Agency and the International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce will sponsor a Minority Business Matchmaker Trade Mission and Trade Show, featuring export counseling, market and finance briefings, meetings with pre-screened business contacts, logistical support—including translators—and export market analyses June 8-13 in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

The purpose of the trade show is to introduce minority firms to

expanding export opportunities which have already generated license agreements, joint ventures and over \$56 million in projected sales for participants in five previous minority trade missions to South Africa, Canada and Mexico.

The delegation is open to the first 20 qualified companies, at least 51 percent minority-owned. You must be signed up by April 28. To register fax your name, company, address, telephone and fax numbers, and product/service to Molly Coscia, matchmaker program manager, at 202-482-0178, or call 202-482-0692.

## Judges

(Continued from page 1)

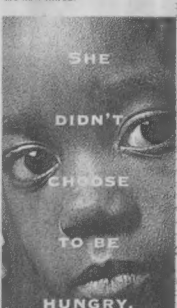
convince administration officials on the fact that fighting crime is ineffective without attacking the social causes of crime.

Abigail R. Rogers, a family court judge in South Carolina and the first black female jurist in that state, reveals how she has been victimized by racism and sexism from whites and blacks alike.

The author of "Black Judges on Justice," Linn Washington, is an award-winning investigative reporter and editorial writer. A graduate of Temple University who takes a masters degree from the Yale Law School, Washington has spent much of his 20-plus years in

journalism specializing in issues involving race and matters related to the justice system. Washington is a former assistant to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and former executive editor of The Philadelphia Tribune. "Black Judges on Justice" is receiving favorable reviews. The Quarterly Black Review describes the book as an "illuminating work...that should be required reading for anyone interested in the relationship between blacks and the law." The magazine Booklist describes the book as "well-written and insightful" while Publisher's Weekly termed the book "thoughtful." "Black Judges on Justice" is on the recommended reading lists of Essence and Emerge magazines.

Derrick Bell, the distinguished law professor and expert on racism in American law, has stated, "Belonged racial-justice forces will applaud Linn Washington's searingly candid interviews with these courageous men and women who strive both to alleviate unfairness in their courtrooms and to urge reforms that, if adopted, would move courts toward justice and away from the cynicism, racism, and moral bankruptcy in which they are now mired."



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## Terrorism

(Continued from page 4)

new and unknown to those of us who have spoken out against and warned people about the rise of fascism in this country. The major mass white controlled media outlets have been derelict in their duties and responsibilities to properly research, report and expose the clandestine and criminal activities of these neo-fascist groups.

Law enforcement officials have known about the existence of these groups around the country. They have an added dilemma in tracking these militia groups and organizations, due to the fact that in some of these small towns, and municipalities across America, the local sheriffs and officials are also members. In other cases, some are afraid to confront them because they fear for their own lives.

## Backlash

(Continued from page 1)

Bork alleged that "affirmative action had accomplished nothing and cost the government trillions of dollars." Wilkins, a civil rights mediator and official of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration, was effective in clarifying the myths and distortions raised by Bork.

The issue of civil rights posed a peculiar problem for President Johnson, and for Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey as the Democratic presidential candidate in 1968.

There was a vicious white backlash against President Johnson for his aggressive, outspoken support for civil rights, in pushing through the U.S. Congress three civil rights bills.

In a meeting before a group of black editors and publishers in the spring of 1968, President Johnson discussed how he came around to pushing for passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, in spite of warnings by liberal Democratic senators.

President Johnson said, "I was told by my fellow Democrats that, 'Mr. President, you have done enough for civil rights. You don't need to push the Congress into a corner on a fair housing bill. This is an election year and we don't need to lose any more white support.'"

"I thought about that and discussed it that weekend with Lady Bird. That Sunday, after we returned from church, I decided to take Air Force One to see the 82nd Airborne depart on another mission to Vietnam."

"Upon arriving at the base in Georgia, I was surprised to see so many Negro soldiers. I went up to one of them, and asked, 'Soldier, why are you in this volunteer group headed to Vietnam?'"

"The Negro soldier looked at me and said, 'Mr. President, I am proud to be a part of the 82nd Airborne, because for the first time in my life I am treated with dignity and as a first class citizen.'"

"When Lady Bird and I returned to the White House, I told her that if these Negro soldiers can go to Vietnam and fight from an integrated bunker, then I will make

Our vigilance as a community needs to increase, because these neo-fascists represent a real threat to us as a people. They are not only anti-government, they are outright racists and would, if they had their way, blow all of us up. They are not just a small group of fanatics either. Individuals such as Timothy McVeigh, James Nichols, or Terry Nichols share the sentiments and views of far too many white Americans.

President Clinton is right to focus attention on this climate of hate that is fueled by the daily rhetoric and racist slurs made by conservative, right-wing individuals who exploit and feed upon the ignorance of individuals who listen to them and literally take these ideas seriously.

The country is slowly spiraling out of control. To those who say fascism could never happen here in America, I can only request that they read and study history in a more critical and analytical manner. The scapegoating that we see happening, trying to blame America's social and economical problems on African Americans and other people of color is no coincidence. It is part of a pattern of behavior that is used to breed hatred and breed mistrust. Also, who would have thought that a despicable act of violence against humanity would have happened in the "heartland of America" where many believed they were immune to these types of activities? Sadly, we now, all know, that hatred knows no bounds and has little regard for borders.

for some "liberal" white supporters of civil rights. But that support turned into quiet hostility over "bussing" in northern states. Thus, "bussing" was the racially divisive wedge word for the 1968 presidential campaign.

In subsequent presidential campaigns, wedge words have included "crime," "welfare," "Willie Horton," and now "affirmative action."

The problem is an especially complex one for the Democratic Party as we move toward the 1996 presidential year. President Bill Clinton can win the affirmative action debate and lose the election, or lose the debate to Republican challengers and lose significant black support and still lose the election.

Dukes was a part of the Johnson-Humphrey Administration and served on the staff of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey.

## Payne keynotes town meeting

ALEXANDRIA, VA.—U.S. Representative Donald Payne was the featured guest of workers in CARE's member companies on Monday, March 27. The Midas Muffler and Brake Shop in Irvington hosted the aftermarket town meeting and invited employees from Carquest, NAPA, ISW, and the New Jersey Automotive Wholesalers, all located in Payne's 10th District.

Aftermarket employees took the opportunity to discuss with Payne, issues which impact jobs in New Jersey, such as the Clean Air Act and Junker-Clunker bills, and thanked him for co-signing the Rose-Cox congressional On-Board Diagnostic (OBD) letter to the EPA. Representative Payne, who worked on brakes several years ago, took the time to go into Midas's work area and inspect the progress of several brake jobs.

The automotive aftermarket is a \$162 billion a year industry, employing nearly four million people in over 425,000 businesses, including "Mom & Pop" shops.

"The automotive aftermarket in New Jersey is fortunate to have

a Congressman, such as Donald Payne, who is both knowledgeable about vehicles, a friend to the hard-working men and women we employ, and our motivating consumers," said CARE President, David Parde.



Pictured (l-r), Midas employees Arthur Knighton, Doug Haviland and Anthony Lee discuss the progress of several brake jobs with Rep. Donald Payne (center).

## Oklahoma

(Continued from page 1)

see life from the underside. Through such experiences we have been forced to develop the spiritual, emotional and physical strength to sally and overcome adversity; to turn stumbling blocks into stepping stones. For many white men, a declining economy, lost jobs, lost wages and lost farms are new experiences. They had not been forced to develop the spiritual strength to cope with such life-threatening circumstances. Thus, their anger is seething and literally exploding.

In that vacuum has stepped Newt and his conservative talk radio friends. Their message? Take government over, democratize it and make it responsive to your real

material needs? No! Their message is an ideologically reactionary and economically conservative one: "The government 'of, by and for the people' is your enemy." That message, of course, just happens to favor the rich and the big corporations. Don't change the federal government to meet your needs. Destroy it so the rich and corporations will benefit. Following that path, of course, will only increase the alienation of white males and, indeed, all of us.

On April 26, one week after the bombing, Rev. Jesse Jackson was meeting with the editorial staff of "The Daily Oklahoman." After a moment of silence at 9:02 a.m., Rev. Jackson asked those present to

join hands while he led them in the following prayer: "...through it all, make us better and not bitter. Let us learn something about ourselves and each other. But through it all, be in our midst. We ask you to be with those families that are disoriented today, traumatized—a mother gone, a father gone, a baby gone, a church member gone, a neighbor gone."

"But we know that you can heal. If we in fact will turn from our wicked ways, you'll forgive us for our sins and we'll hear from heaven and you'll heal our land. Help us find the redemptive dimension through all the rubble. Let us find the hope and be a part of the healing. Amen."

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Every month millions of Americans

put their hard earned money into

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putting it toward their future. Why?

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brochure on how to buy a HUD home, call 1-800-767-4HUD. And begin putting your check into a great investment, not your landlord's pocket.



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To qualified buyers, only on homes with FHA-insured financing. Actual down payments will vary based on price of home and terms. Closing costs and fees additional.

## Government

(Continued from page 4)

Welfare clients can draw their grant from teller machines near the store where they need it. Psychiatric patients will find expanded services in the communities so more of them can lead full and productive lives outside a psychiatric hospital.

People with developmental disabilities are finding jobs thanks to programs that teach them the skills they need to become productive members of the New Jersey family. And families who need a hand to care for their loved ones with developmental disabilities are getting that help delivered to their doorstep.

Through contracts and programs like Medicaid we're demanding and getting the best price. Where federal money is available, the Department of Human Services has sought it out and shared it for our clients.

We're consolidating hundreds of general assistance welfare programs into 28 county and municipal operations to eliminate unnecessary duplication and give better service. And the state-run HMO is up for sale because the private sector can run it better.

In program after program, we're looking to perform the service better, both for the client and government. And when we perform the service better, often we save money.

It's an exciting time in government, but not without its turbulence. Whenever things change, it creates worry and uncertainty for the people affected directly—the clients and their families. For them, the innovations and reforms now underway may be happening too fast. The proposal to close a psychiatric hospital and a developmental center over the next three years are a prime example of change that is upsetting.

We know it. We know government typically announces change and pushes forward without regard for family feelings, only the budget line.

We're trying to change that, too. As we institute our changes, we're bringing families, clients and advocates into the process like never before.

For a fourth year, we invited the community to help put together our budget, and for the first time, televised the forum. We wanted to share our ideas and plans with as much of our human services family as possible.

People with developmental disabilities and their families have been given a greater say in where they live and learn. Money from the bond issue approved in November will let more people live as a part of New Jersey's family, not apart from it.

We are not saying, "You have to do this." We're saying, "You have options. Let us help you explore what's right for you." We feel government should be a guide to the service, not an obstacle.